

# CONSUMER PROTECTION



WISCONSIN  
DEPARTMENT OF  
AGRICULTURE,  
TRADE AND  
CONSUMER  
PROTECTION

## REGIONAL OFFICES

### Southeast

10930 W. Potter Road, Suite C  
Milwaukee, WI 53226-3450  
414-266-1231

### Northeast

Suite 146-A  
200 N. Jefferson Street  
Green Bay, WI 54301-5198  
920-448-5110

### Northwest

3610 Oakwood Hills Parkway  
Eau Claire, WI 54701-7754  
715-839-3848

### Southwest

2811 Agriculture Drive  
Madison, WI 53708-8911  
608-224-4960

# News

December 2003 Edition

Dear Wisconsin Children's Safety Advocates:

In November 2003, the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission issued a total of twelve **(12) recalls relating to products affecting children**. Attached is a summary of the releases identifying the product, problem and what should be done with the recalled product.

We have found that not all of the recalls are picked up by the news media as they occur. This monthly summary will give you the opportunity to review all of the children's product safety recalls for the past two months.

If you are interested in a complete text of the recall, double click on the hyperlink at the end of the recall description. This will take you to the CPSC website and the actual recall notice. If you have other product safety questions you may call our toll free number at **(800) 422-7128**.

Following is a listing of the 12 "KIDS" recalls by title and identification number (when available):

- ❖ Brio® Corp is recalling Toy Drums. #04-028
- ❖ Advantage Publishers Group is recalling Children's Activity Books. #04-029
- ❖ Fisher-Price is recalling Scooters and Mini-Bikes. #04-031
- ❖ Target Corp. is recalling Multicolored Sidewalk Chalk. #04-032
- ❖ Schylling Associates Inc. is recalling Jack-In-the-Box-Type Toys.
- ❖ Merit Furniture Distributors is recalling Bunk Beds. #04-034
- ❖ Meijer Inc. is recalling Children's Jackets. #04-036
- ❖ The May Department Stores Co. is recalling Girls' Hooded Fleece Jackets.
- ❖ Toys "R" Us, Inc. is recalling Solid-colored and Multi-colored Sidewalk Chalk. #04-038
- ❖ American Greetings Corp. is recalling Crazy Bounce Balls. #04-039
- ❖ American Greetings Corp. is recalling Zipper Pulls. #04-040
- ❖ American Greetings Corp. is recalling Cloth Santa Decorations sold at Wal-Mart. #04-042

We hope you find this service of value and that it assists you to:

## "KEEP YOUR KIDS SAFE!"

# KEEP YOUR KIDS SAFE

**Release Number:** 04-028 Brio® Corp of Germantown, WI is voluntarily recalling about 2,100 Plan Toy Solid Drums. The recalled Plan Toys Solid Drum is natural wood with blue and red triangles painted on the side. The drum measures 6 1/4-inches in diameter and 3-inches high and has curved holes carved into the top. On the bottom of the drum are three rubber feet attached with screws. The recalled lot numbers are 46271068, 1546214 and 4345141 and are printed on the inside flap of the packaging. A stamp on the bottom of the drum displays the Plan Toys logo. Specialty toy stores, Internet retailers and mail order catalogs sold the recalled toy drum nationwide from March 2003 through September 2003 for about \$15. The drums were manufactured in Thailand.

**Problem:** The three rubber feet, which are screwed into the bottom of the drum, could be removed in some cases, posing a choking hazard to young children.

**What to do:** Consumers who purchased recalled drums should take them away from young children immediately and call BRIO® for information on receiving a refund or replacement product. For more information, contact BRIO® at (888) 274- 6869 between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. CT Monday through Friday, or visit the firm's Web site at [www.Briotoy.com](http://www.Briotoy.com).



- <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml04/04028.html>

**Release Number:** 04-029 Advantage Publishers Group, of San Diego, Calif., is voluntarily recalling about 5,300 "Amazing Baby™ Listen and Play" activity books. The "Amazing Baby™ Listen and Play" book has a multi-colored cover with a baby face on the front and is an interactive book designed to allow children ages 12 to 24 months to learn about different sounds,

images, and materials. The cover also shows a yellow bird that makes a squeak noise when pressed, and a clear plastic container of multicolored beads. Mounted onto the inside back cover is a small rotating plastic wheel with finger indentations, which makes a "clacking" sound when turned. Retail stores, national book chains, wholesalers and distributors, and membership warehouse clubs nationwide sold the activity books from May through October 2003 for \$16.

**Problem:** The hub of the pink dial embedded in the inside back cover can come off during use in some of these books, posing a choking hazard to young children.

**What to do:** Consumers should immediately take these books away from young children. Consumers should call Advantage Publishers Group toll-free at (866) 748-3731 anytime to order a replacement activity book without the dial. Consumers also can obtain information by going to the company's Web site at [www.advantagebooksonline.com](http://www.advantagebooksonline.com)



- <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml04/04029.html>

**Release Number:** 04-031 Fisher-Price, of East Aurora, N.Y., is voluntarily recalling about 30,000 electric scooters and about 55,000 electric mini bikes. The recalled Lightning PAC Scooters and MX3 Mini Bikes are battery powered ride-on toys designed for children ages six years and older. The product names are located on the side of the toy. The recalled scooters and mini bikes have model numbers of 73530 (Lightning PAC) or 73535 and B2222 (MX3 Mini Bike), which can be found inside the battery compartment. The recalled toys were manufactured in China. Mass merchants and toy stores nationwide sold scooters between November 2001 and October 2003 for

about \$250 and sold mini bikes between May 2003 and September 2003 for about \$200.

**Problem:** The motor control circuits can malfunction causing the scooters and mini bikes to continue to run after the power or throttle button is released, posing a risk of injury to children.

**What to do:** Consumers should take the toy vehicle(s) away from children immediately and contact Fisher-Price at (800) 528-7153 anytime or log on to [www.service.mattel.com](http://www.service.mattel.com) to receive information on how to have their toys serviced for free at a certified Power Wheels Service Center. The Service Centers will make modifications to the toy vehicles' circuitry.

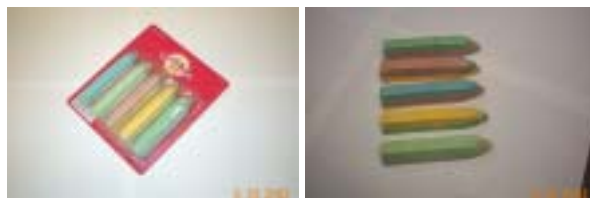


- <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml04/04031.html>

**Release Number:** 04-032 Target Corporation of Minneapolis, MN (importer) and manufacturer Agglo Corporation of Hong Kong are voluntarily recalling about 26,000 packages of multicolored sidewalk chalk. The sidewalk chalk is packaged in plastic that is molded to five sticks of chalk and a cardboard backing that is labeled "Double Dipp'n Fun." Each stick of chalk is triangular shaped and multicolored, with three colors layered together (green, red, yellow, or blue). This recall does not affect solid color chalk sold in the same packaging. The sidewalk chalk was sold at Target stores from March 2003 to July 2003 for about \$1 per package. The chalk was manufactured in China.

**Problem:** The multicolored sidewalk chalk contains high levels of lead, posing a risk of poisoning to young children. The Wisconsin Department of Health tested the chalk and identified the lead in the chalk.

**What to do:** Consumers should return the multicolored sidewalk chalk to Target stores for a refund. Call Target Corporation at (800) 440-0680 between 7 am and 6 pm CT, Monday through Friday, or go to the company's Web site at [www.target.com](http://www.target.com)



- <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml04/04032.html>

**Release:** Schylling Associates, Inc. of Rowley, Mass is recalling about 300 Bear "Jack-in-the-Box" toys. These multicolor tin Jack-In-the-Box-type toys have illustrations of bears in various activities on the sides. Each side features the enlarged single letters of the word "BEAR" and "BEAR" is written on the top of the toy. Other writing on the sides includes, "Bears in a Boat," "Bears Eating Eggs," "Bears in the Air," and Bears Racing Rabbits." When the crank is turned, the song, "Pop Goes the Weasel" plays and a toy teddy bears pops up out of the top of the box. "Schylling" is written on the bottom of the toys. Toys with date code stickers on the bottom are not included in the recall. Specialty stores, gift shops and book stores nationwide from August 2003 through October 2003 for about \$20. The toy was manufactured in China.

**Problem:** The red bead on the crank of the toy can detach, posing a choking hazard to young children.

**What to do:** Take these toys away from children immediately and call Schylling Associates Inc. at (800) 767-8697 between 9 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. ET Monday through Friday for information on receiving a refund or replacement toy.



- <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml04/04514.html>

**Release Number:** 04-034 Merit Furniture Distributors, Inc., Brooklyn, NY is voluntarily recalling about 524 Merit Bunk Beds. The "twin over twin" bunk beds involve model #DLM550, #DLM160, and #860. The wooden recalled bunk beds are labeled with the "Merit" name and

specific model numbers on the top front railing system of the bunk beds. Furniture stores nationwide sold the bunk beds from May 2002 through August 2003 for about \$150. The bunk beds were manufactured in Brazil.

**Problem:** The bunk beds have openings between the guardrails and in the end structures that are too large. A child's body could slide between the openings and could become trapped by the head, posing a serious strangulation hazard.

**What to do:** Consumers should contact Merit for information on how to return their bunk bed and receive a full refund. Call Merit at (800) 233-7178 between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. PT Monday through Friday or log on the company's Web site at [www.meritfurnitureistributors.com](http://www.meritfurnitureistributors.com)



- <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml04/04034.html>

**Release Number:** 04-036 Meijer Inc., of Grand Rapids, Mich., is voluntarily recalling about 7,500 children's jackets. The recalled Falls Creek Army Flight Jackets are for boys size 4 through 7 and 8 through 18, as well as toddlers sizes 2T through 5T. These jackets are made of blue or olive nylon fabric and are decorated with assorted patriotic patches on the sleeves, chest and back. The hood is bordered with synthetic brown and tan fur. These jackets were manufactured in Korea. Meijer stores in Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and Kentucky sold the jackets from July 2003 through October 2003 for between \$26 and \$33.

**Problem:** These jackets have hood drawstrings. Children can get entangled and strangle in the drawstrings that catch on objects, including playground equipment, fences and tree branches.

**What to do:** Consumers should stop their children from wearing the jacket immediately and contact Meijer toll-free at (866) 280-8419 anytime or log on to their Web site at [www.meijer.com](http://www.meijer.com) for information on how to return the jacket for a full refund. Parents also can remove the drawstring,

which will make the jacket safe for children to wear.



- <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml04/04036.html>

**Release:** The May Department Stores Co. of St. Louis, MO is voluntarily recalling about 57,660 Girls' Hooded Fleece Jackets. These girls' hooded fleece jackets have either the brand name "Just Friends" or "Angel Fish" sewn on the inside collar. "Just Friends" also is written on the right pocket. The jackets are 80 percent cotton and 20 percent polyester. Jackets with style number 60103 were sold in girl sizes 4-6X in pink, green, blue and lilac. Jackets with style number 60104 were sold in girl sizes 4-6X sold in lilac, melon and turquoise. Jackets with style number 70103 were sold in toddler sizes 2- 4 in pink, mint green and lilac. The style number can be found on the jackets' hang tag. May Department Stores Co. department stores, including Lord & Taylor (which sold the "Angel Fish" brand exclusively), Filene's/Kaufmann's, Robinsons-May/Meier & Frank, Hecht's/Strawbridge's, Foley's, Famous-Barr/L.S. Ayres/The Jones Store, from July 2003 through October 2003 for about \$13. The jackets were manufactured in Singapore.

**Problem:** The zipper pull could detach from these jackets, posing a possible choking hazard to young children.

**What to do:** Return the jacket to the store where purchased for a refund or store credit.: For more information, call the May Department Stores Co. at (314) 342-6468 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. CT Monday through Friday.



- <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml04/04516.html>



**Release Number:** 04-038 Toys "R" Us, Inc., Paramus, NJ (importer) and manufacturer Agglo Corporation of Hong Kong are voluntarily recalling about 50,000 packages of multi-colored and solid-colored sidewalk chalk. The sidewalk chalk is packaged in a clear-plastic backpack-type carrying case with these words on the label: "Chalk To Go...Totally Me!...24 pieces, sidewalk chalk in different colors, fun chalk shapes." The label on the package also says "Conforms to ASTM- D4236." The sidewalk chalk comes in several shapes: butterfly, spider, ice cream cone, bottle, cylinder, and triangular stick. The chalk pieces are solid-colored or multi-colored, including red, blue, green, yellow, and purple. The sidewalk chalk was sold at Toys "R" Us stores nationwide from March 2003 to November 2003 for about \$4.99 per package.

The chalk was manufactured in China.

**Problem:** The multi-colored and solid-colored sidewalk chalk contains high levels of lead, posing a risk of poisoning to young children.

**What to do:** Return the sidewalk chalk to Toys "R" Us for a refund. Consumers may call toll-free on (866) 274-6340 24- hours-a-day Monday through Friday or visit the Toys "R" Us Web site: [www.toysrusinc.com](http://www.toysrusinc.com)



- <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml04/04038.html>

**Release Number:** 04-039 American Greetings Corp., of Cleveland, Ohio is voluntarily recalling about 17,000 DesignWare® Crazy Bounce Balls. This is a 1 1/2-inch multi-colored cluster of green, light green and brick red rubber balls. There are four balls in each package. The packaging has a light green cardboard backer. Model number CBB 1306 and UPC 61526 01101 are written on the back of the packaging. The product was sold at discount, toy, drug, grocery, party and specialty/gift stores nationwide from November 2002 through August 2003 for about \$3. The balls were manufactured in China.

**Problem:** The balls could break apart, posing a choking hazard to young children.

**What to do:** Consumers should take these balls away from young children and dispose of the balls immediately. Consumers can contact the firm for a coupon redeemable wherever American Greetings' products are sold. Call American Greetings Corp. at (800) 777-4891 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. ET Monday through Friday.



- <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml04/04039.html>

**Release Number:** 04-040 American Greetings Corp., of Cleveland, Ohio is voluntarily recalling about 122,700 DesignWare® Zipper Pulls. This accessory item consists of a 2-inch plastic blue or purple butterfly-shaped photo holder that can be attached to a zipper. There are four items in a package. The packaging has a pink/hot pink cardboard backer. Model number ZPL 1820 and UPC 18100 72866 are written on the back of the packaging. The product was sold at discount, toy, drug, grocery, party and specialty/gift stores nationwide from January 2001 through November 2003 for about \$4. The product was manufactured in China.

**Problem:** The product could separate and detach from the zipper, posing a choking hazard to young children.

**What to do:** Consumers should dispose of the zipper pulls immediately. Consumers can contact the firm for a coupon redeemable wherever American Greetings' products are sold. Call American Greetings Corp. at (800) 777-4891 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. ET Monday through Friday.



- <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml04/04040.html>

**Release Number:** 04-042 American Greetings Corp., of Cleveland, Ohio is voluntarily

recalling about 500 Cloth Santa decorations. This is an 8-inch, stuffed, plush Santa decoration with a bean bag-type fill material. Santa is outfitted in a traditional red and white suit with black and white spotted trim. He is wearing green gloves and black boots. Model #UX UGF 121J and UPC 61526 09253 are written on the display tag. Wal-Mart stores nationwide from October 2003 through November 2003 for less than \$5. The santa decorations were manufactured in China.

**Problem:** The beaded nose on the cloth Santa decoration could detach, posing an aspiration hazard to young children.

**What to do:** Consumers should immediately remove these decorations from any display and keep out of reach of children. Consumers should return the item to Wal-Mart for a refund. Call American Greetings Corp. at (800) 777-4891 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. ET Monday through Friday.



- <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml04/04042.html>

If you would like to sign up for the Keep Your Kids Safe newsletter, please visit our webpage at <http://datcp.state.wi.us> or contact Michelle Reinen at (608) 224-4988 or [michelle.reinen@datcp.state.wi.us](mailto:michelle.reinen@datcp.state.wi.us). Please be sure to provide your name, telephone number and e-mail address.

If you have any questions or want to file a complaint regarding an unsafe product, contact:

WI Bureau of Consumer Protection,  
Regulation & Safety Section  
1-800-422-7128 (toll free in Wisconsin)  
or (608) 224-4988